

Quick Strokes

Subscription, per year, \$14
Single copies, until the next volume begins, \$3.50
Back volumes, \$4

Official organ of the Dvorak International Federation. Issued in June, September, December and March. This is No. 1 of Vol. XII, Whole Number 41.

1984 SUMMER

News from DIF headquarters

With the reassurance from CCI that there are 14,000 Dvorak keyboards in directory assistance of the telephone system (555-1212), we continue to surge ahead with great confidence that the Dvorak keyboard has finally hit the big time.

Virginia and Kenneth Russell went to Cupertino the week before the Apple IIc was announced. The journey to the west coast was at the invitation of the Apple engineers. Kenneth gave a demonstration on the new IIc as well as on the Macintosh which was equipped with the software program MacVorak.

On April 24 Virginia was at Moscone Center in San Francisco to see the Apple IIc being presented to the Apple dealers 4,000 strong from all over the US and Europe. Scarborough Systems, the publishers of Mastertype, invited Virginia to help out in their booth. Mastertype is now written with Dvorak training lessons. Virginia's role was to promote Mastertype with the Dvorak training. Bruce Zweig, author of Mastertype, was on hand as was the graphics writer Don Park. Bruce and Don showed their talents by typing at extremely high speeds on both the Qwerty and the Dvorak keyboards.

Sierra on Line was at the Apple II Forever extravaganza. Their typing tutorial game Whiz Type with the Dvorak was also being announced at the April 24th convention.

The switch on the new Apple IIc for the Dvorak keyboard shows that this keyboard is fast becoming a household word.

Key Tronic Inc. in Spokane are making the keyboard for both the IBM PC and the PC junior. They tell us that they are selling the product very well. They are also receiving many requests for information on the Dvorak keyboard.

PC/Dvorak, mentioned in the last Quick Strokes, is certainly a bright light for you IBM PC users. The disk is a simple software conversion written by Todd Katz and Murray Sargent. The disk is inserted into the PC, you type in Dvorak, push Control and Tab and you have a Dvorak keyboard.

Age of Reason, 318 E 6th Avenue, Apt. 123, New York, NY 10003, (212) 473-2309.

The price is right at a mere \$25.00. If you prefer, call or write Dvorak International Federation, Box 128, Brandon, VT 05733; (802) 247-6020, and we will send the product to you.

Bulletin board electronically

Those of you with modems might begin to watch your bulletin boards. We are going online soon. Plan on this around the first of September. We plan to distribute Dvorak information through this medium on a 24 hour basis.

Companies searching the Dvorak situation continue to grow. As of the fall issue of Quick Strokes we will have a significant list of new users to publish.

The Dvorak diagram in this column is the approved ANSI X4.22. Anyone wishing a copy of this chart may write to the Dvorak International Federation, Box 128 Brandon, VT 05733. This is a copyrighted item. Unfortunately there are people who violate the copyright law. We would like to have allowed our materials to be in the public domain but have had to copyright our materials to protect ourselves. This is the policy of the Dvorak International Federation which is a separate organization working in cooperation with Quick Strokes. We are a nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to promote the Dvorak Keyboard.

The fact sheet included in this column is courtesy of Scarborough Systems.

Both the Wall Street Journal and USA Today have done stories on Dvorak in the last month. Obviously we have seen a lot of new interest generated by these articles.

Available products for the Dvorak at this printing, Smartkey II, Mastertype, Prosoft, ProKey, Seasoned Systems Sure Stroke, Whiz Type, PC/Dvorak (Age of Reason).

Hardware

Key Tronic Keyboard for IBM/PC and the PC junior, Maxi Switch keyboard for IBM/PC and the PC junior, Apple IIc with a switch for Dvorak, Apple IIe, built into the PROM. Apple III in the Systems Master. Apple Macintosh, MacVorak, Wang OIS and Professional. Radio Shack on the Systems Master.

All the CP/M operated computers are capable of running Dvorak using Smartkey II.

For example: Osborne, Kaypro, Televideo and Dataport (a briefcase size).

State Farm

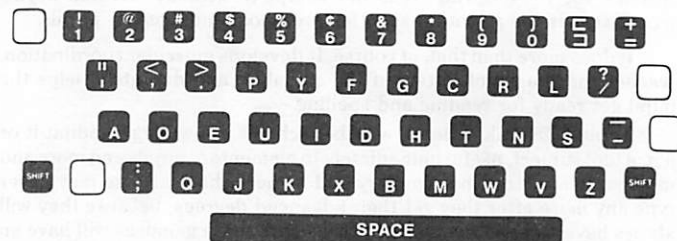
The Dvorak Keyboard has been in use in the Word Processing Center at State Farm Insurance Companies' Northwest Regional Office, Salem, Oregon, for about 4 1/2 years. Two of the three DSK typists presently in the center are retrained, long-time users of Qwerty keyboard.

Minimal loss of production was experienced during the retraining periods. The actual training took approximately one week, followed by gradual building of speed and production. Our experience showed that production goals were met even before words per minute were equaled or surpassed. One of the major assets of the DSK is in the area of fatigue.

With the advent of the electronic keyboard, and more and more vendors supplying the Dvorak keyboard, either by software, chip, or switch, it seems timely for schools to begin training Dvorak typists in earnest. It is a much easier keyboard to learn, faster, and less fatiguing. This all adds up to production.

Our next move? To train more Dvorak typists.

From Dvorak International Federation, Box 128, Brandon, VT 05733, (802) 247-6020.



DVORAK KEYBOARD

ANSI x4.22-1983

Copyright © 1983 Dvorak International Federation

This diagram is being reproduced with permission from the Dvorak International Federation, Box 128, Brandon, VT 05733.

Inertia losing its grip

The Inspector II, a special-purpose computer for analysing automotive exhaust gases, has an almost complete alphanumeric keyboard with a feature that would have been thought far too drastic a few years ago. There is no skew to it! Instead, the keys are positioned in a rectangular array.

There are just six keys in the front rank, legended U, V, W, X, Y, and Z. The middle rank, which in two-hand operation would be the home row, runs, left to right, from K to T. The upper rank (Row D in the International Standardization Organization numbering system) runs, left to right, from A to J. The top rank is the conventional scramble, with the smallest digit flush right and the next smallest flush left.

Thus the file at home row M is, front to back, U, M, C, 3, and the file at home row R is Z, R, H, 8, and there are two files of only three characters

to the left of M and two more to the right of R, with all files at a right angle to the horizontal ranks.

The Inspector is not for connected discourse but rather for one-finger poking. A cluster of punctuation, special symbols, and a space key is off to the left of the alphadigital array, a function cluster is off to the right, and the usual spacebar location is occupied by a bar labeled PROCEED/ENTER.

Even for the names and addresses which must be spelled out on this keyboard, a Dvorak arrangement would be better. The letter and sequence frequencies in those follow those in English in general, and the systematic arrangement would make the work easier and quicker. The point of this story, however, is that the Sun company, vendors of the Inspector, have declared their independence of office and classroom convention.

Five thousand inquiries in one month's time

Virginia Russell, president of the Dvorak International Federation, reports about five thousand requests in one month's time, for Dvorak materials and training information. The date of the Los Angeles Times that carries the interview, under by line of Hugh McCann, of the Detroit News, is 1984 June 21, so that the date of the spate would be mostly May.

The Times story is on page 10 of Part 1-B, and the top line of the head reads "Dvorak-Dealey System Gains Adherents."

The queries come, Russell says, from middle management. Some of these managers may be in charge of information processing centers. Some may have an executive work station in the offing or already set up and these are likely to want something special. McCann agrees that a Dvorak-Dealey arrangement is indeed something special — easily learned and fast and accurate when learned.

The four-to-one ratio, qwerty to Dvorak, in finger travel which is cited in the story, fifth paragraph, is not accurate, however. Ten to one would be more like it.

Thanks to Ken Stone, of Glendale, California, for the clip.

List of merits not long enough

Thomas S. Booz, the sage of Broward Boulevard (Plantation, Florida), points to a glaring omission from the "Merits" story in Quick Strokes 40, 1984 Spring. It is not complete without "Dvorak keying . . . Extends the attention span for preschool and primary pupils."

It does more than that, of course. It develops muscular coordination, teaches the shapes of letters of the alphabet, and definitely helps the pupil get ready for reading and spelling.

Typing, Dvorak style, is, whether schools are willing to admit it or not, a tool subject, useful immediately to elementary pupils and more and more so to students in secondary and higher schools. Some may never type any more after they get their advanced degrees, because they will always have a secretary. On the other hand, these geniuses will have an executive work station, with a screen and a keyboard in front of them or beside them. The keyboard may just as well be Dvorak and fluent as conventional and cumbersome.

It is standard doctrine in teacher training schools that every teacher should be an English teacher. By the same token, every English teacher should be a Dvorak typing teacher. They will impart more grammar in that way and will show the typing, or the improved typing, as a bonus.

Palo Alto operator has wanted to learn Dvorak for decades

A senior word processing equipment operator located in Palo Alto, California, reports that he uses an IBM-PC XT with WordStar and Lotus and, most recently, ProKey. "The RoseSoft documentation manual is excellent," says Nicholas de Paul. . . "Its advertised ability to implement Dvorak clinched the purchase decision."

With a Smith-Corona Short Course ordered from the Dvorak federation office in Brandon, Vermont, de Paul is determined to make the switch to the rational arrangement which he says he, and his father before him, had postponed "for decades."

Prokey is available at most Computerland stores as well as at other software sources, or from RoseSoft, Inc., 4710 University Way NE, Suite 601, Seattle WA 98105.

Dvorak-skilled operators at work in strategic places

A recent dispatch from *Chicago Tribune News Service* mentions Ford Motor Co., the Social Security Administration, and Blue Cross-Blue Shield as employing Dvorak-skilled operators. The dispatch says "the Dvorak-Dealey arrangement," which is fair enough. It was indeed W. B. Dealey who brought the idea of a rational arrangement to August Dvorak and was his partner for many years.

Barbara Blackburn, now of Salem, Oregon, and a Dvorak-skilled operator of long standing, is mentioned as "the nation's fastest typist," who "blazes away" at 180 words a minute.

Good catch! by S. O. Tuve, of Portland, Oregon.

In Palo Alto, call de Paul

If you call Nicholas de Paul, 415-493-5342, you may get an answering machine. If the call is local and is about the Dvorak arrangement of characters or Quick Strokes or the Dvorak federation, de Paul will call you back and help as much as he can.

ANSI Dvorak Coronamatic typewriter and case, new, \$400.
HERE COMES THE SK, 39 page book; new supplement, \$2.
MANAGING THE SK, 20 pages, with the new supplement, \$1.
Belmond Adams, 4 Park Ave., Scarborough, ME 04074.

FOR RENT — Videotape, "Typewriters: Dvorak Made a Better One," narrated by Albert C. Kolb, Carmel (California) Middle School, time 14 minutes and 19 seconds. Narrator and secretary demonstrate on interesting and innovative alternative to the standard keyboard. Motivates student interest in the typewriter and in developing skills. In VHS cassette. Per week \$10. Shipping weight 1 lb., 12 ozs. Quick Strokes, Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

COLORKEYS

The Modern Media,
Dual-Keyboard Learning System
That Teaches Accelerated
Touch Typing/Keyboarding
On Either Or Both The
Conventional Keyboard (QWERTY)
and/or The Human-Engineered

ALTERNATE KEYBOARD ARRANGEMENT
Simultaneously In The Same
Classroom, Training Area or Work Station

for

- Business/Industry
- Government/Military
- Education (all levels)
- Social Service/Rehabilitation

MORTON COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL

Post Office Box 60241
Chicago, Illinois 60660-0241

Quick Strokes is published by Philip Davis at 2541 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95815, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Editor, Philip Davis; contributing editor, Virginia Russell; editorial assistant, Christiana Bell; telephone 916-372-7372. ISSN 0743-4200.

Quick Strokes is the official organ of the Dvorak International Federation, 11 Pearl St., Brandon, VT 05733, telephone 802-247-6020. President, Virginia Russell. Past presidents, Steve Anderson, Thurman Clark, Helen Baldwin, Sue George, Patricia Wells.

ASK Dvorak arrangement is in SCRIPSIT for TRS-80 users

by Waldo T. Boyd

At the Santa Rosa Radio Shack computer center, I had them make a backup of their SCRIPSIT 3.0 hard disk master. I refused to touch it, kept my hands in my pockets and told them I wanted them to be certain I was pulling no hocus pocus.

Then I had them enter the patch. Voila! They had ASK!

The patch for SCRIPSIT 3.0 is PATCH SCRIPSIT/CMD A=3D0D F=D8 C=D9 (thin line and hard disk).

It is vital to get the patch correct and to make it only on a backup of the master disk—not on the original. Reason: If even one tiny error then blooie! Messed-up disk. But when entered correctly, SCRIPSIT 1.0 is instantly and forevermore in ASK mode.

Bibliographic notes

Santa Barbara, California, *News-Press*, 1983 Oct. 3, page B-1, by Barney Brantingham, Off The Beat column.

Santa Barbara, California, *News-Press*, 1984 July 8, by Bill Alvernaz, "Dvorak keyboard — Studies say it's better." Address THE COMPUTER COLUMN, Box 21632, Santa Barbara, CA 93121.

Wall Street Journal, 1984 June 21, page 35, front of Section 2, columns 4, 5, and 6, "Dvorak Typewriter Keyboard May at Last Have Chance to Challenge Qwerty Design," by Stephen MacDonald, 22½ column inches.

Thurman Clark, assistant director for administration of the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System and a past president of the Dvorak International Federation is quoted on the affirmative side. So is Ardeth Jerde, supervisor of the State Farm Insurance Companies' word-processing center in Salem, Oregon.

So are several newcomers — a New York psychiatrist, who says it took him about four hours in the course of a week to learn, and a Salt Lake City banker who uses Dvorak at home and conventional typing at his office.

The negative is sustained by two people who never tried very hard.

USA Today, 1984 July 5, Section 3B, "Keyboard, computers: Fast duo," by Mark Lewyn, 14½ column inches. There is some exaggeration of the saving in finger travel, the learning pace for beginners, and Barbara Blackburn's racing pace.

Lewyn mentions Apple, Wang, Digital, Key Tronic, and Maxi-Switch as venders of

hardware for adaptation to Dvorak keying, as well as two recent entrants into the Dvorak software market, namely, MasterType and Whiz Type.

The Valley Voice, (Brandon, Vermont), 1984 May 29, "An (old) new option to QWERTY," by Sarah Bailey, 49 column inches including photodiagram of ANSI ASCII alternate standard keyboard. An interview with Virginia Russell. She and an assistant devote full time and overtime to educating people on how Dvorak keying reduces stress and fatigue and improves speed and accuracy.

Statesman-Journal, Salem, Oregon, 1983 March 17, page 2C, "Flying fingers convert a limo, give a keyboard concert," by Gloria Bledsoe. Five and one-half column inches on Barbara Blackburn, her long-ago switch to Dvorak keying, her job at State Farm Insurance Companies, and her remarkable keyboard paces.

Statesman-Journal, 1983 June 23, page 9A, "Salem woman's speed-typing featured on TV," by Andrew Hartley, six and three-quarters column inches on Blackburn's two-minute, 45-second spot on the CBS Evening News on June 22. Speeds are cited as 150 words per minute on a typewriter and 200 on a word processor, at Dvorak-arranged boards. "Blackburn swears by it..."

Sunday Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, 1983 July 3, page B8 2M, "System gives woman fastest fingers," by Peggy Sand. Thirty column inches with photodiagram and Blackburn portrait. "The simplified method will become even more important in the next decade as computer keyboards become a major occupation," Blackburn said.

USA Today, 1983 July 14, "Speedier Keyboard picking up fast-fingered fans," by Kevin Anderson. Twenty-seven column inches including photodiagram. Interview with Virginia Russell, who "has more business than she can handle."

Converting the earlier Apple IIe

For the method for converting to a Dvorak arrangement certain 1983 Apple IIe computers, see Quick Strokes 36, page 1. Order from Quick Strokes, Volume X. See the BACK ISSUES ad in this issue.

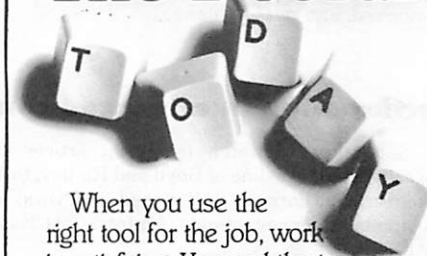
Bibliographic notes

Electronic Engineering Times, 1982 June 7, page 92, Crosstalk column, under head Dvorak Information, letter from Edward B. Montgomery, professor at University of Texas Health Science Center, Dallas.

BACK ISSUES of Quick Strokes, in Vol. XII, \$3.50 each. Earlier issues, in Vol. I to XI, by the volume at \$4 per volume. No sales tax. Order from Quick Strokes, P. O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

THE 1974 JANELLE report, "Eastern Region Trial of the Dvorak Simplified Keyboard," nine pages photocopy. Report of hands-on experience in retraining, qwerty to Dvorak, under Western Electric Corp. auspices, and deemed "inconclusive" at the time, this application fore- ran the present extensive application in AT&T. \$4.50 at Quick Strokes, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Stroke The Dvorak



When you use the right tool for the job, work is satisfying. You and the tool work together. You get the job done right, and you feel a sense of achievement.

But the wrong tool works against you. You manage to get things done, but it's uphill all the way. You're left frustrated and tired.

Today's standard key layout is deliberately hard to use. Devised to keep 19th-century mechanical machines from jamming, it constantly works against you. The result — fatigue and errors.

What's the right tool for communicating with your PC? The Dvorak keyboard. Its natural key layout works with you, giving you the feel of ease and comfort. Your personal productivity rises.

SureStroke is the total Dvorak keyboard solution for the IBM PC. More than a key-mapper, SureStroke powers you as you learn the Dvorak layout. Harnesses your unconscious resources. Gets you up to speed fast.

Get SureStroke. And stroke the Dvorak — today.

SureStroke includes

- key-mapping software •
- press-on letters for keys •
- audio cassette •
- learning software •
- complete manual •

SureStroke for IBM PC with PC-DOS. \$49.95 U.S. plus \$3.95 shipping. Send your name, address, Visa or Mastercard number and expiration date (or company check) to:

Seasoned Systems, Inc.
Box 3036, Dept. PCTJ-3
Chapel Hill, NC 27515
or call 800/334-5531, toll-free.
In NC, 919/967-5818

SEASONED SYSTEMS

IBM is a trademark of International Business Machines Corp.

Contrast between the rational and the naive arrangements, wallet size

Please write to the Quick Strokes advertiser Morton Communication Systems and ask for a reasonable number of their comparison cards. Ask for forty and take and use what you get. The alternate, Dvorak arrangement of characters is tersely compared with its predecessor on a card no bigger than a credit card. Talk is fugitive; the card can be read, studied, memorized, and passed along.

Forthcoming in advanced computing

Something to watch for is an article in *Advanced Computing* magazine, under by-line of Boyd and Radley, to appear in a 1984 autumn issue. Both authors are well versed on Dvorak keying. The magazine is not circulated on newsstands. Address, 131 East Orange St., Lancaster, PA 17602.

Jerry Kay on Keyswapper by Vertex

"This multifunctioned utility displays IBM PC keyboard, Dvorak, and conventional Selectric. The screen displays the keyboard after changes are made. Should a Dvorak devotee and a less enlightened typist have to share a computer, either can change keyboard layouts with the push of a button... or two," writes Jerry Kaye, director of communications for Vertex Corp., 7950 West Fourth St., Los Angeles, CA 90048.



The diagram here is a mockup of the keyboard on any of 1,100 units in use in the directory assistance service units in the five-state operating area of New England Telephone company. The digits, not shown, are on a keypad or in a numeric cluster, all operated with the same hand. These keyboards offer no access to any punctuation nor to a key for dot leaders.

Quick Strokes

Box 643
West Sacramento, California 95691
Telephone 916-372-7372
Philip Davis, editor and publisher

SPLIT SCREEN shows motions of conventional and Dvorak operators. Motion picture film, black and white, silent, "Motion Study of the Dvorak Simplified Keyboard," produced 1942 by R. M. Barnes and August Dvorak. For rent from Quick Strokes, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691. Per week \$10.

DVORAK KEYBOARD information. Send \$6 (in California, add 36¢ tax), to Quick Strokes, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691, for packet of Dvorak, There Is a Better Typewriter Keyboard, and two issues of Quick Strokes. The Dvorak booklet gives the rationale for Dvorak keying and a survey of Oregon applications. QS is the organ of the Dvorak International Federation.

IN MINT CONDITION — A few copies of the seminal work *Typewriting Behavior*, by Dvorak, Dealey, Merrick, and Ford. Hard cover, 521 pages including index and appendix, it comprises the team's report to the Carnegie Foundation on typing teaching, typing learning, and machine design. \$30 at Quick Strokes, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA. To California addresses, \$31.80.

STARTING MANUAL FOR ALTERNATIVE KEYING — Titled *Simplified Keyboard Supplement* and written by the late, great August Dvorak and others, it contains Lessons 1 to 5 and 16 to 19.

It merges with any full-length typing manual or with practice material of your choice. \$3.50 at Quick Strokes, P. O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691. In California, add 21¢ tax.

DVORAK SELECTRIC ELEMENT — Please specify pica or elite type; fits Selectrics I and II. Arrangement is close to the classic Dvorak, digits reading, left to right 7, 5, 3, 1, 9 for the left hand, and right to left, 8, 6, 4, 2, 0 for the right hand. \$111 dollars at Quick Strokes, P.O. Box 643, West Sacramento, CA 95691, telephone 916-446-3377. A starting manual, the *Simplified Keyboard Supplement*, is included. Two sheets of 77 half-inch round press-on labels with the alphabet, extra vowels, punctuation, and digits are included. Pairing of digits and special symbols corresponds to the Dvorak Selectric arrangement. Delivery in three weeks after receipt of order and payment.



SCM -ASKs

2500s
Classic 12s
1770 Juarez St., Seaside, CA 93955
(408) 394-4284